

Commissioners Meeting
April 21, 2025

Date & Time: 2025-04-21 08:00

Location: Room 106

Attendees: Jeremy Pasel, Gabriel Nobbe, Brian Wenning

Opening

- **Welcome and Introduction**
 - The meeting was called to order, and attendees were welcomed.
 - Title VI forms were made available for attendees to fill out and submit to the auditor's office.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer**
 - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Metz, followed by a prayer from Terry Canfield.
- **April 7th Meeting Minutes**
 - Motion to approve the minutes was made by Brian Wenning and seconded by Gabe Nobbe.
 - The motion carried unanimously with all in favor.
- **Claims Approval**
 - No irregularities were noted in the claims.
 - Motion to approve the claims was made by Gabe Nobbe and seconded by Brian Wenning.
 - The motion carried unanimously.
- **Payroll Approval**
 - Payroll for April 11th, 2025, amounted to \$397,837.67.
 - Motion to approve the payroll was made by Gabe Nobbe and seconded by Brian Wenning.
 - The motion carried unanimously.

Highway Department Updates

- **General Maintenance and Bridge Inspections**
 - Ongoing maintenance includes patching, mowing, and signage.
 - Bridge inspections revealed three critical findings:
 - **Bridge 116:** Guardrails detached; repairs completed within 30 days.
 - **Bridge 38:** Bearing pads moved; repositioned and documented.
 - **Bridge 33:** Detached guardrail; repairs planned.
 - Discussion on utilizing existing skip and pave bids for state road 3 repairs.

CCMG and Local Projects

- **Pre-Qualification Certificate Discussion**
 - County Attorney Chad Smith provided insights into statutory requirements for local projects.
 - Pre-qualification certificate deemed sufficient for local projects, even if over \$300,000.
 - Motion to approve SC Construction as the low bidder was made by Gabe Nobbe and seconded by Brian Wenning.
 - The motion carried unanimously.

Area Plan and Revitalization Projects

- **Decatur County Revitalization Project**

- Cleanup approval for 10 properties; letters sent to property owners.
- Some properties have had no response for years, dating back to 2022.

Property Cleanup and Financial Burden

Brian Moore, a property owner, expressed concerns about past interactions with the planning committee

- **Ordinance Violations:** Mr. Moore was accused of having various items on their property, such as cages, lumber, and debris. They disputed some of these claims, stating that most items were necessary for their projects.
- **Inspection and Verification:** Mr. Moore requested verification of cleanup efforts and offered to provide photos or allow inspections. They emphasized that the property was primarily used for practical purposes.
- **Charges Discrepancy:** There was confusion over the exact charges, with one document showing \$2,798. The speaker was assured that the charges would be reviewed.
- **Documentation:** The speaker was advised to communicate with Area Plan Director Doug Westerfeld regarding the status of the property and any further documentation needed.

Ordinance and Plan Readings

- **Ordinance Reading:** The meeting included a second reading of the fines and fees ordinance, motion to approve by Brian Wenning, seconded by Gabe Nobbe, motion carried unanimously.

Adjustment in Review Fees

- **Area Plan Office Fees:** Increased to \$60 per survey, with an additional \$10 for every lot in a subdivision.
- **Auditor's Office Fees:** Increased to \$40 per survey, plus \$10 for subdivisions.
- Previous fees were \$40 for the Area Plan Office and \$20 for the Auditor's Office.
- The amendment has had two readings in front of the Area Planning Commission.
- Motion made by Brian Wenning to accept new survey ordinance and seconded by Gabe Nobbe. The motion carried unanimously

Ordinance Numbers and Septic Requirements

Ordinance Numbers

- Ordinance numbers discussed: 2024-4, 2025-4, and 2025-5.
- Repeal to section 940-3 BC.

Septic Requirements

- Requirement for septic to be drawn out on the survey when property is rezoned.
- The Board of Health will locate the septic once installed.
- Approval was given despite two absentees.

Contract Renewal with Spillman

Contract Details

- Renewal of the contract with Spillman, now termed as a subscription service.
- Cost split: Sheriff's department 36%, police department 22%.
- Subscription locks in \$82,000 for the next five years, avoiding an 11% increase.

Approval

- The city has already approved their part of the contract.
- Brian Wenning made motion to approve, Gabe Nobbe seconded. Motion carries.

MOU with Crisis Intervention Team

Overview

- MOU with the Crisis Intervention Team and the City of Greensburg has been signed by Mayor Marsh.
- The MOU does not require additional signing or approval.

Impact

- The team has already handled over 40 call-outs, reducing the load on officers.

Acquisition of Live Scan Machine

Purpose and Benefits

- Acquisition of a live scan machine for fingerprinting and mugshots at no cost.
- Intended for use by courthouse security staff to save time and reduce jail wear and tear.

Location

- Potential placement in the courthouse security office upstairs.

9-1-1 Director Report

Greensburg Tower Light Replacement

- Discussion on replacing the Greensburg Tower light, initially estimated at \$20,000, now quoted at \$16,765.
- The 9-1-1 board approved using state 9-1-1 funds for the repair, up to \$20,000.

Additional Considerations

- Discussion on potential additional work while the tower is being climbed.

Additional Equipment and Funding Sources

- Discussion on installing an additional antenna and cables for a VHF repeater to enhance communication capabilities.
 - This would aid in toning fire, EMS, and serve as a backup for tornado sirens.
- A second quote for the additional antenna and cabling is \$10,572.
- Consideration of using local income tax funds set aside for public safety to cover additional costs.

Quotes and Cost Breakdown

- Quote 1 and 2 for VHF repeater installation total \$27,000.
- All three quotes combined amount to \$40,290.
- A recommendation was made to seek city involvement for half of the additional \$20,290 needed.

Current System Issues

- Statewide system issues with towers, particularly the secondary site connected via old copper cables.
 - Frequent downtime during precipitation, causing communication disruptions.

- Greensburg site has been down for two weeks, affecting communication with state towers.

Proposed Solutions

- Installation of low-band and high-band antennas to improve coverage and provide a backup system.
- Quote 3 involves a 700 MHz repeater, which is not currently available at the site.
 - This would enhance coverage and allow for independent county communication.

Opioid Settlement Funds

JRAC Involvement

- The Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council (JRAC) is assisting with the administration of opioid settlement funds.
- A county website application process was established for public access to these funds.

Fund Allocation

- The first installment was \$532,000, with \$383,000 as restricted funds for opioid treatment-related expenditures.
- \$150,000 is unrestricted and can be used for any purpose.
- \$135,533 has been allocated to wellness courts under the restricted category.

Discussion on Funding Applications

- **Applications Reviewed:** Three applications were discussed this quarter.
 - **Nano-Individual Request:** A request to test wastewater plant levels for fentanyl was not approved. The group could not determine how it would benefit the county since it only involved city water testing.
 - **Branch Program Funding:** A request for funding to continue a program was tabled for further discussion.
 - **Speranza House Request:** The group unanimously approved a request from Speranza House for \$130,000. This funding will support house they completed on Broadway.
- **Community Impact:** Since 2018, Speranza House has assisted 150 women and impacted 319 children. Their recidivism rate is 12%, compared to the IDOC's 29%. The relapse rate is 27%, better than the national average of 40-60%.
- **Housing Stability:** Only 10% of women arrive with stable housing, but 92% achieve stable housing after completing 120 days.
- **Financial Benefits:** Receiving the full \$129,000 would eliminate their mortgage, saving \$77,000 in interest and facilitating potential expansion.
- **Organizational Status:** Speranza House is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Motion and Approval

- A motion was made by Brian Wenning and seconded by Gabe Nobbe to approve the funding for Speranza House. The motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Announcements

- **Veterans Service Rep:** Ken Mobley will start on May 9th.
- **Maintenance Position Update:** Approval was received to offer an additional \$10,000 salary to a candidate for a maintenance position, bringing the total offer to \$60,000.

Adams Township Trustee and Advisory Board Vacancy

- **Trustee Vacancy:** A new trustee was selected at a caucus, creating a vacancy on the advisory board.
 - **Advisory Board Vacancy:** No caucus was held for the advisory board vacancy; the commissioners will appoint someone.
 - **Nominations:** Public announcement for accepting nominations and letters of interest.
 - **Requirements:** Candidates should submit a resume and a statement of qualifications and interest.
 - **Process:** Commissioners will review submissions by the next meeting. No interviews will be conducted; candidates can speak for three minutes at the meeting.
 - **Advisory Board Composition:** The board consists of three people.

Cleaning Services Bid

- **Annual Bidding:** Cleaning services are bid out bi-annually.
 - **Bids Received:** Two bids were received from Beyond the Surface Cleaning LLC and Gilliam.
 - **Bid Details:**
 - **Beyond the Surface Cleaning LLC:**
 - Weekly rate: \$1,000
 - 2025 & 2026 Annual Rate: \$52,143
 - Total for 2025 & 2026: \$283,000
 - **Gilliam:**
 - Weekly rate: \$1,299.87 (2025), \$1,338.87 (2026)
 - 2025 Annual Rate: \$67,593.24
 - 2026 Annual Rate: \$69,621.04
 - Total for 2025 & 2026: \$203,841
 - **Decision:** Gilliam was awarded the contract for being approximately \$80,000 cheaper. Motion to approve contract was made by Brian Wenning and seconded by Gabe Nobbe. Motion carries.

Use of Facilities for Main Street Farmers Market

- **Request:** Approval for the use of facilities for Main Street events.
 - **Details:** Similar square footage as last year, limited vendor types to avoid market saturation.
 - **Approval:** Motion to approve was made by Jermy Pasel, seconded by Brian Wenning. Approval of the use of facilities was carried.

Edit Plan and Ready Grant ARPA Section

- **Funding:** An additional \$20,000 added to the EDIT plan for fundraising materials and video presentations.
 - **Approval:** Motion to approve the updated edit plan was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Gabe Nobbe. Motion carried.

Fairgrounds Electrical Updates

- **REMC Updates:** Electrical equipment at the fairgrounds is outdated and needs replacement.
 - **Easements:** Easements required for underground work to replace overhead lines.
 - **Coordination:** Collaboration with REMC for conduit placement for power, internet, and speaker lines.

Meeting Adjournment

- Motion to recess was made by Jeremy Pasel, seconded by Brian Wenning. Motion passed. Meeting recessed.

The Next Commissioner meeting will be held on May 5th, beginning at 6:00 P.M. in room 106.

Attest: _____ Date: _____